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ABSTRACT

Providing an overview of the Outdoor Education Workshop provided by the Georgia Migrant Education Program to give migrant students and staff an opportunity to learn new skills which they can then share with other migrant children upon their return to the regular school setting, the paper briefly discusses the administrative steps necessary when planning/implementing the workshop, program content, and evaluation. State objectives for the workshop are listed as broadening migrant children's educational horizons, promoting healthier human relations, increasing learning motivation, improving communication skills, developing appreciation of the beauty and order of the natural environment, enabling instructional staff to work more effectively with educationally disadvantaged children, and enhancing the children's self-concepts by providing success-oriented experiences. A planning chart indicates the personnel involved, i.e., state planning committee, coordinator, local education agency (LEA) superintendent and migrant staff, location planners, and presenters. Ten organizational tasks are listed, along with 10 planning suggestions. Including examples of a memo to LEA staff, tasks list and deadlines, parents permission form, presenter's form, and agenda for a 2-day workshop, the paper concludes with the evaluation forms for presenters, LEA staff, and students. (NQA)

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OUTDOOR EDUCATION

IN

GEORGIA

PRESENTED

BY THE

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

AT THE

NATIONAL MIGRANT EDUCATION CONFERENCE

APRIL, 1982

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SARAH MOORE, STATE COORDINATOR

Georgia Migrant Outdoor Education Program.

The Georgia Migrant Education Program includes an Outdoor Education Workshop planned for the staff and migrant children within the state. The purpose of the workshop is to provide an opportunity for migrant students and staff to learn new skills which they can then share with other migrant children upon their return to the regular school setting.

OBJECTIVES OF THIS PRESENTATION ARE:

1. To increase awareness of Outdoor Education.
2. To demonstrate the role of Outdoor Education within the Migrant Education Program.
3. To provide a model for implementing an Outdoor Education Workshop.

CONTENT OF THE PRESENTATION:

- I. Introduction
- II. Administrative Steps in Planning/Implementing
- III. Program Content
- IV. Program Evaluation
- V. Summary/Questions

PRESENTERS:

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OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP

State Objectives for Outdoor Education Workshops:

1. To broaden educational horizons of migrant children.
2. To promote healthier human relations.
3. To increase motivation to want to learn.
4. To improve communication skills.
5. To develop appreciation of the beauty and order of the natural environment.
6. To enable instructional staff to work more effectively with educationally disadvantaged children.
7. To enhance self-concepts of migrant children by providing success-oriented experiences.

General Comments on Outdoor Education:

There are few, if any, boundaries to the possibilities for Outdoor Education curriculums. Because the children are there for only a few days, one cannot hope to teach them a great volume of facts. It is a matter of choosing or selecting within a certain philosophy and integrating the studies into the child's whole year. Because the children are there for 24 hours a day, every moment of the day or night is a part of the curriculum.

At its best, outdoor educational activities conducted at the workshop should be related to activities carried on in the regular school setting. At a workshop, most of the classes are held outdoors regardless of the weather.

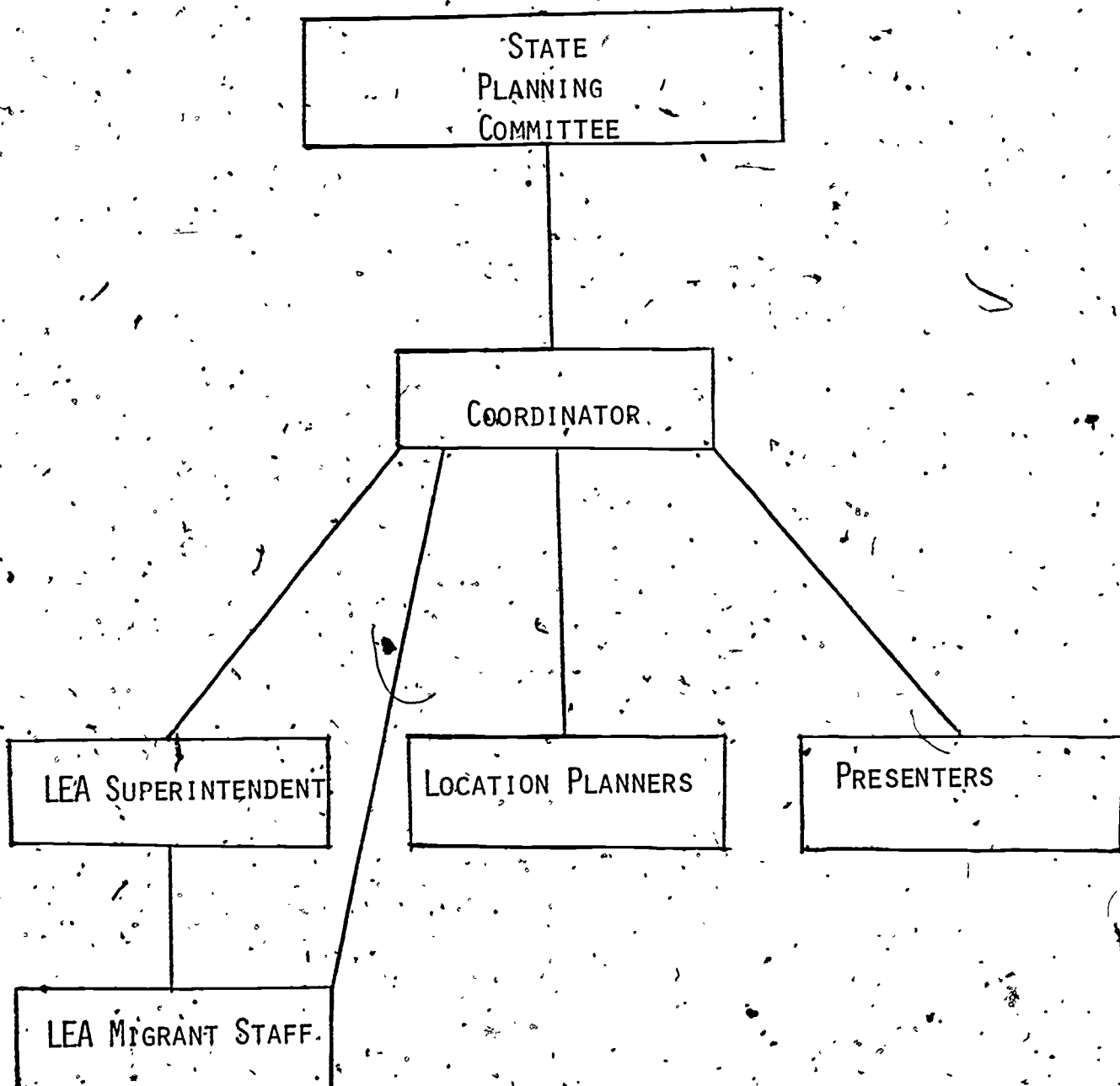
The classes or groups are small which allows for more individualized treatment of the planned learning experiences. The teacher's job is to present a wide assortment of activities which will be personally meaningful to the children. A relaxed and informal atmosphere contributes to the overall learning experience and to more open sharing of feelings and perceptions.

At the outdoor education workshop, the predominate teaching method is the exploratory approach. In this technique the implication is that teachers and students all have something to contribute and something to learn. An exploratory class might be designed to look for differences between trees. Some brief explanation may be given by the leader at the outset. But an exploratory class should be far less concerned with names and detailed information than with using the human senses to distinguish differences. Students should be encouraged to explore, find examples, and use their findings to draw conclusions.

Even though an exploratory hike centers around looking for specific things, the teacher should not miss teachable moments. When a snake is found, it is time to discuss snakes. It may disrupt the class plan, but it has the advantage of an unexpected discovery and of heightened interest.

Outdoor Education Workshops have the intent of bringing the child and teacher together in a learning experience. By sharing the joy and adventure in learning, their experiences take on a deeper meaning and bring them to a closer relationship.

GEORGIA OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP
PLANNING CHART



OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP

ORGANIZATIONAL TASKS

1. Select a planning committee.
 - A. Set objectives for the program.
 - B. Assign tasks to committee members.
 - C. Select one person to coordinate program.
 - D. Select areas of study and types of presenters desired.
2. Determine tentative number of children and staff who will participate.
3. Select appropriate site for workshop.
 - A. Cost.
 - B. Proximity.
 - C. Site staff expertise.
4. Secure permission/approval from local systems for staff/ students to participate or inform them of the program.
(See example letter.)
 - A. Minimize disruption to the regular school program.
 - B. Have children counted for ADA purposes.
5. Plan budget.
 - A. Cost/person for food, lodging, linens, and facilities.
 - B. Supplies.
 - C. Health Kits.
 - D. Travel/Transportation.
 - E. Insurance.

6. Prepare tasks list and deadlines. (See example list.)
7. Secure permission form from parents. (See example form.)
8. Make an on-site visit to location to become familiar with setting.
9. Assemble materials and contact resource people to present. (See example of presenter's form.)
10. Finalize plans with the appropriate persons.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP PLANNING SUGGESTIONS

1. Make a decision "go" or "no go" early enough for adequate planning.
2. Make clear to LEA's the concept of learning together and the need for adequate supervision by both male and female teachers.
3. Prepare instructional materials for staff in the areas to be covered during the workshop.
4. Schedule a planning session for staff interaction months prior to the workshop to resolve any misunderstanding of the purpose of the workshop.
5. Provide follow-up activities to be used within the regular school setting.
6. Assist students in developing learning packets to teach other students.
7. Make changes in the program based upon input from participants and presenters.
8. The teacher/student ratio should not exceed 1 to 15 during the planned sessions and 1 to 5 for general supervision.
9. Provide instruction in personal hygiene, brushing and flossing teeth, and screenings for medical and dental problems to increase the impact of the workshop.
10. Inform presenters of the characteristics of the children and the staff with whom they will be working.

EXAMPLE OF MEMO
TO
LEA STAFF

TO:

FROM:

Each year, the Georgia Migrant Education Program sponsors an Outdoor Education Workshop. The three-day event is scheduled this year for May 3-5 at Rock Eagle. The purpose of the workshop is to teach skills to migrant students who then can share what they have learned with other migrant students upon their return to their schools. A tentative outline of the workshop is enclosed.

Children who attend this activity are not counted absent since this is a state-approved program.

Migrant staff have been asked to send an estimated number of children who will be attending. Children, ages 8-12, are eligible to attend. Parental permission forms will be required for all children who attend, and parents may accompany their children with the understanding that they fully participate in the workshop.

If you have any questions about the workshop, please contact this office. You will be sent further information as soon as the plans are finalized. We appreciate your help and cooperation in providing this educational experience to migrant students enrolled in your county.

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP

EXAMPLE

OUTDOOR EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL TASKS

	<u>Deadline</u>
1. Determine tentative number of children and staff who will be participating.	Feb. 8
2. Send final count of students/staff to coordinator (List children by county and sex.)	Mar. 15
3. Finalize rooms/food at workshop site.	Mar. 30
4. Arrange transportation to workshop site.	Mar. 30
5. Arrange lunch for Monday (5/3).	Mar. 30
6. Contact resource people.	Feb. 16
7. Prepare and disseminate workshop schedule.	Feb. 15
8. Prepare first aid kit.	Apr. 15
9. Assemble information packets/health kits.	Apr. 15
10. Purchase T-Shirts.	Mar. 18
11. Send names of children and staff, grouped by leader and children, and staff not directly responsible for children to coordinator.	Apr. 1
12. Send out permission forms and return to coordinator.	Mar. 15

Workshop dates, May 3-5

1982 Outdoor Education Workshop

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

PARENTS PERMISSION FORM

The Outdoor Education Workshop will be held at Rock Eagle 4-H Camp, Eatonton, on May 3, 4, and 5, 1982. Your child has been invited to attend and will be accompanied by _____

(Staff Member)

Transportation, insurance, food, pillows, linens, and health care kits will be provided. The Outdoor Education Workshop is considered part of the regular school program; therefore, your child will not be considered absent from school on these days.

WHAT TO BRING: Clothes-enough for 3 days. Be sure to include long pants such as jeans and also shorts (if the weather is warm). In addition, send a jacket or sweater, sturdy shoes, socks, shirts, underwear, and pajamas. Please do not overpack as space is limited for luggage. Your child may bring a flashlight, but please do not send RADIOS, SNACK FOOD OR ANYTHING VALUABLE.

Child's Name _____ School _____

Parent's Name _____ County _____

Address _____

Person to Notify in Case of Emergency:

Name _____ Relationship if other than parent _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Does your child have any medical problems we should know about? _____

Does your child take any medicine regularly? (Be sure to send it with directions for dosage if he/she does.) _____

I give my permission for my child to participate in the Migrant Education Outdoor Education Workshop.

(Parent's Signature)

(Date)

EXAMPLE

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP

MAY 3-5, 1982

PRESENTOR'S FORM

Session: _____

Presenter: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

A-V Equipment Needed: _____

Type Of Space Needed: _____

Comments: _____

Presider: _____

EXAMPLE

Monday, April 27, 1981:

EXAMPLE

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Registration
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. LUNCH
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Orientation

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. SESSION I

Fishing Hawks
Forest Study. Eagles
Language Arts Cardinals
Crafts Robins
Soil & Water Study. Owls
Orienteering. Ravens
Canoeing. Bluebirds
Group Sports Pelicans
Health Doves
Project Adventure Falcons

3:05 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. BREAK-Snacks

3:35 p.m. - 4:35 p.m. SESSION II

Fishing Eagles
Forest Study. Cardinals
Language Arts Robins
Crafts Owls
Soil & Water Study. Ravens
Orienteering. Bluebirds
Canoeing. Pelicans
Group Sports Doves
Health Falcons
Project Adventure Hawks

4:40 p.m. - 5:40 p.m. SESSION III

Fishing Cardinals
Forest Study. Robins
Language Arts Owls
Crafts Ravens
Soil & Water Study. Bluebirds
Orienteering. Pelicans
Canoeing. Doves
Group Sports Falcons
Health Hawks
Project Adventure Eagles

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. DINNER

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. GROUP ACTIVITIES

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Return to Cabins

10:00 p.m. LIGHTS OUT!!!

Tuesday, April 28, 1981:

7:00 a.m. WAKE UP!!
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. BREAKFAST
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. SESSION IV

Fishing Robins
Forest Study. Owls
Language Arts Ravens
Crafts Bluebirds
Soil & Water Study. Pelicans
Orienteering. Doves
Canoeing. Falcons
Group Sports Hawks
Health Eagles
Project Adventure Cardinals

9:35 a.m. - 10:35 a.m. SESSION V

Fishing Owls
Forest Study. Ravens
Language Arts Bluebirds
Crafts Pelicans
Soil & Water Study. Doves
Orienteering. Falcons
Canoeing. Hawks
Group Sports Eagles
Health Cardinals
Project Adventure Robins

10:40 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. SESSION VI

Fishing Ravens
Forest Study. Bluebirds
Language Arts Pelicans
Crafts Doves
Soil & Water Study. Falcons
Orienteering. Hawks
Canoeing. Eagles
Group Sports Cardinals
Health Robins
Project Adventure Owls

11:40 a.m. - 12:00 Noon CLEAN UP!

12:00 Noon - 1:00 p.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. SESSION VII

Fishing Bluebirds
Forest Study. Pelicans
Language Arts Doves
Crafts Falcons
Soil & Water Study. Hawks
Orienteering. Eagles
Canoeing. Cardinals

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Outdoor Education Workshop

Evaluation

Purpose

The purpose of evaluating Outdoor Education is twofold. One is to assess the process used in planning and implementing an Outdoor Education Program. The second is to evaluate the content of the program to ascertain its relevance and impact upon the participants. This component has both short-term and long-term implications; therefore, the evaluation includes a method for collecting data for both effects of Outdoor Education.

Process and content evaluative data is collected at the end of the Outdoor Education Workshop with the target audience being the administrators, presenters, LEA staff, and migrant children. A follow-up evaluation six months after the workshop is directed toward LEA staff and migrant students. The purpose of this delayed evaluation is to determine the long-range impact and benefits, if any, of Outdoor Education.

Organizational Meetings - Statewide

First Meeting:

1. Presented overview and original intent of Outdoor Education.
2. Established need for organizational structure.
3. Discussed problems and possible solutions to utilization of information by LEA staff.
4. Established tasks for committee members:
 - (a) Topic areas
 - (b) Available resources

Second Meeting:

1. Established statewide objectives.
2. Determined topic areas and objectives for each topic.
3. Listed responsibilities of presenters.

Third Meeting:

1. Compiled pre-and post-workshop activities.
2. Discussed possible delivery methods for pre-service activities for LEA staff.

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM
EVALUATION - OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP

Presenters

YES ___ NO ___ 1. Were you given adequate time to prepare for the Outdoor Education Workshop?
Comments _____

2. Did you receive adequate information prior to the workshop?

YES ___ NO ___ Outdoor Education Objectives
YES ___ NO ___ Availability of facilities
YES ___ NO ___ Audience characteristics
YES ___ NO ___ Schedule
Comments _____

YES ___ NO ___ 3. Was the length of time for each session adequate to cover the information?
Comments _____

YES ___ NO ___ 4. Did the number of sessions presented in one day present problems?
Comments _____

5. General comments (Please use this space for any other comments which may help us in planning future Outdoor Education Workshops).

EVALUATION - OUTDOOR EDUCATION

LEA STAFF

____ May

1. Were pre-workshop activities useful to you in preparing the children for Outdoor Education?

2. What activities or information could have been provided to help you in preparing for Outdoor Education?

3. Was adequate information given during the Outdoor Education to do post-workshop activities?

4. What benefits do you see from children and/or staff participating in Outdoor Education?

EVALUATION - OUTDOOR EDUCATION WORKSHOP

LEA STAFF

____ November

1. Were pre-workshop activities useful to you in preparing the children for Outdoor Education?

2. What activities or information could have been provided to help you in preparing for Outdoor Education?

3. Was adequate information given during the Outdoor Education to do post-workshop activities?

4. What benefits do you see from children and/or staff participating in Outdoor Education?

5. Did students share information learned at Outdoor Education with non-attending students?

6. Have you used activities in your program which relate to Outdoor Education activities? If so, how did you use them?

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Outdoor Education workshop

Evaluation

STAFF: Please circle the appropriate answer.

1. The Outdoor Education Workshop was:



Very Helpful



Somewhat Helpful

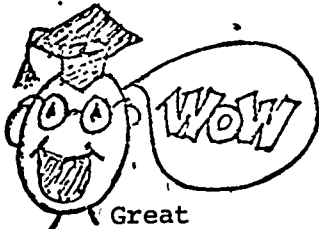


Not Very Helpful

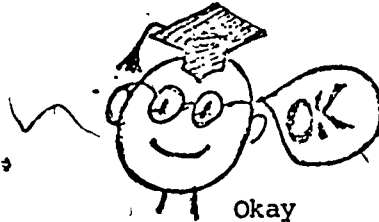


Completely Useless

2. The location of the workshop was:



Great



Okay



Terrible

3. The consultants were:



Great

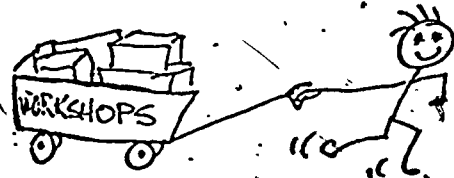


Okay

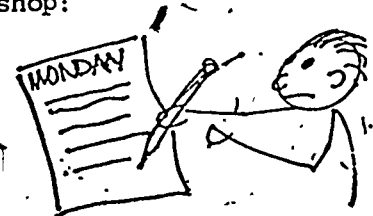


Boring

4. I feel that as a result of the Outdoor Education Workshop:



There will be somewhat of a carryover



Business as usual-no carryover

5. The general atmosphere of the workshop was such that I felt:



Free and open



So-so

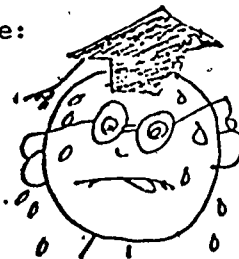


Uptight

6. I felt the workshop format and activities were:



Just right



Too Much!

7. I feel that:

- a. I would like to see more workshops like this... _____
- b. Workshops like this are all right... _____
- c. Forget it! I've had it with Outdoor Education... _____

8. I would like to see more:

General Comments:

GEORGIA MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Outdoor Education Workshop

Evaluation

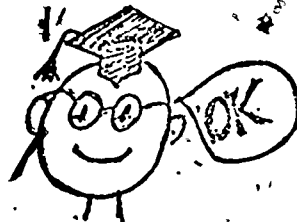
STUDENTS:

Please circle the picture which shows how you feel.

1. Outdoor Education was:



GREAT



OKAY

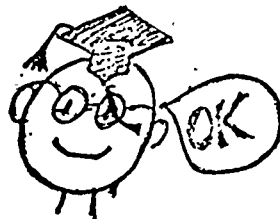


BORING

2. The place for Outdoor Education was:



GREAT.



OKAY

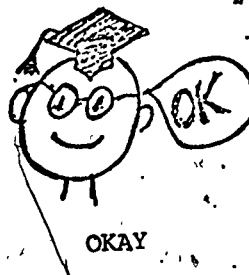


BORING

3. The teachers were:



GREAT



OKAY



BORING

4. I learned:



A LOT



A LITTLE



NOTHING

5. I made:



Many friends



Some new friends



Few or no
new friends

6. Coming to Outdoor Education makes me feel:



GREAT



SO-SO



NOT GOOD

7. What I liked best was:

8. What I did not like was:

END

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